



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2017
11:00 a.m.
Town Office Building - 375 Main St., 2nd Floor
Sydney Crook Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Dietrich, Janet Kidder, Paul Gorman, Bill Berger, Rob Prohl

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michele Holton

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Ricker

Call to Order: Paul Gorman called the meeting to order at 11:00 am

Discussion:

Members of the CIP subcommittee visited the Bow Police Station. Selectmen Kidder felt the visit was interesting and the building is bigger than we would need. They discussed several things that we should consider if we build a new building. The cost was 7 million but they were able to get it down to 4 million through fundraising and donations. Their building houses Fire, Police and Emergency departments. They have two ambulances on site as well. They used to do dispatch but the Selectmen felt it would be less expensive to go with Merrimack County for dispatch services. They feel this has been a mistake. Although it is cheaper, it has not been good. They use Concord for Fire department dispatch. Committee members learned many things about what not to do based on Bow's experience with this process. They discussed that initially they were not going to epoxy the floor in the fire house but in the end decided to spend the money to do so, and it was a good decision. A few years ago, the New London Fire department insisted that we buy this for ours. It has made a huge difference as it stays cleaner, people aren't slipping etc.

Chair Gorman asked about the process of bringing in a prisoner and moving them to the jail cell. Was it all adjacent to each other? Selectmen Kidder felt it was set up nicely, including the sally port, since you drive in one way and drive out the other. They talked about the importance of not buying cheap locks. The locks can be sent out to the locksmith as opposed to have the locksmith come out to the site which is expensive. The small details can save a lot of money.

Adam Ricker asked if they projected this building to meet their capacity for 20 or 30 years. Selectmen Kidder stated that they didn't specify that but mentioned that when this started five years ago, they had a different police chief and different board of Selectmen. The current Police Chief stated they didn't allow much input in the

beginning and there were things she felt should have been done differently. They did emphasize the importance of making sure there was plenty of storage in the building. They were delayed in building due to dealing with ledge on the property. The state has decided that you can't have any runoff and the retention pond that was designed wasn't large enough for the amount of water they would have so it delayed it four months. All the overages were used up before they began. It took about a year to build once they began.

Mr. Dietrich felt it was well worth the trip and it was very helpful.

Chair Gorman shared that he visited the Meredith Community Center. He drove around and viewed the exterior and feels it's well done. There are nice plantings and a large area of parking. Less than a quarter of a mile down the street are all the town sports fields so easily within easy walking distance. There is a gym and a kitchen. It blends nicely into the surroundings.

Adam Ricker stated that Claremont also has a nice Community Center. It has a pool and a large gym.

Chair Gorman discussed the data gathering that has been done from information obtained by all of the department heads, and asked if there are there any areas that still need to be touched on.

Mr. Prohl asked about the Goosehole bridge project. Richard Lee submitted it to the Capital Budget this year but it is not a bridge that scores well with the ten year plan because the volumes are low. In comparison to other bridges, it's in better shape. It is the last of all priorities in the unmet need category. The ten year plan will most likely turn into longer. It is the only access however, so we shouldn't wait for it to get too bad as temporary solutions can be costly. Chair Gorman asked if Richard Lee should be invited to the next meeting. The committee felt there would be value in hearing from him as to when the money should be available in the reserve fund in order to do some of these projects and what year they should be done so money can be put away or borrowed. What are the priorities of projects that need to get done?

The Transfer station report should be coming back soon so maybe Mr. Lee could address that as well. Selectmen Kidder stated that Mr. Lee mentioned that we may be able to get some additional land from the state. If that's a possibility, we may be able to keep it where it currently is. There isn't a large amount of land there and we can't encroach too much due to nearby exit ramps.

Chair Gorman discussed the list that they have been developing:

- Agreement to begin the process of finding property for a new police/dispatch station.
- Maintain a consistent conversation with Colby-Sawyer College regarding opportunities for collaboration.
- Recreation - Community Center
- Transfer Station

Mr. Dietrich wanted to clarify with the role of the committee is. Selectman Kidder stated that they can make recommendations but it needs to be decided if money should be set aside for these things or should they wait and bond them and hope the interest rates are good.

Chair Gorman feels it would be good to approve this list and send it on to the Selectmen. It should be specific to identify our needs so action can be taken.

Selectmen Kidder commented that because of recommendations that have been made in the past a lot of good work has been done. The Sewer lagoons are closed, the dam has been built, and the culvert at Brookside drive is done. Sidewalks have been installed and a lot of gravel roads have been paved.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 8:00am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55am

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson
Recording Secretary
Town of New London